Is there an adult alive who will deny that there is much that is wrong all about him? Freedom of enterprise does allow the evildoers to do evil, just as it allows the good people to do good. But freedom of action, through policing and self-imposed disciplines, make free enterprise tolerable.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 4 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1945 $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

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Bits of Birmingham

City Clerk Irene Hanley complains that so many of the City Commission have names beginning with "M" that she has trouble keeping her tongue twisted just right to give the names their proper pronunciation. And, too, she says there are two men named "Ralph" and she is just not always certain which "Ralph" is intended when a question is asked or answered.

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"I would like to recommend that a study be made of the entire city in an effort to determine if we have the city properly lighted," declared City Commissioner Wm. Coit Allee Monday night at the Commission meeting. He then proceeded to point out a number of street intersections where the lighting might be improved. He told the Commission that there probably were other parts of the city where homes had been added or shade trees set since the last lighting study was made. So it seems the city government may soon add some new street lighting or shift existing lighting so that there will be enough light to go around.

—o—

And while the Commission was studying lighting Commissioner Milton Mallender moved to inquire if "lighting will help keep the starlings away?" He says the bird pests are back again in his section of the city, but not in as large numbers as noted last summer. "If more street lighting will drive them away I would like to ask for many more lights out on our street," he concluded. None of the commissioners seemed to know the answer.

—o—

Birmingham's flags are to remain at half mast for a period of 30 days from April 12, honoring the late President Roosevelt, City Manager H. H. Corson told the City Commission Monday night he understood the official period of mourning was to be 30 days and that he had instructed city workers to keep the flag on the Municipal Building at half mast for that period of time. The Wanderer has noticed flags on other buildings and at some private homes being kept at half mast.

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WABEEK BUILDING

The ministers of Birmingham have been invited as special guests of the High Twelve Club next Monday, April 23, at the Community House, when the Rev. Herbert B. Hudnut of the Woodward avenue Presbyterian church, Detroit, will address the group at its weekly dinner. Rev. Hudnut's message will be of particular interest to this Masonic service club as he is a member of Corinthian Lodge and Detroit Commandery No. 1. Divine blessing will be given by Rev. Arnold F. Runkel of the First Methodist church; the guest preachers introduced by the Rev. Warner L. Forsyth of St. James Episcopal; while the speaker of the evening will be presented by Rev. W. Glen Harris of the First Presbyterian church. S. Merton Adams, editor of the High Twelve Concentric, the club's weekly paper, says in this week's edition "The fact that High Twelve is a non-sectarian organization will be amply demonstrated next week when we have as our guests all the preachers of the city." Guy W. Jensen is president of this local club.

—o—

At a Litany service read by the Rev. Warner L. Forsyth at St. James church Sunday, joint prayers were said for Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Robert Clement. It occurred to this Wanderer at this time that only in a country such as ours would prayers be offered at the same time for the leader of the country and a private in the Army. Pfc. Robert Clement was last week reported killed in Germany.

—o—

At the meeting of the Bloomfield township board, at the Town Hall, the board approved an appropriation of $500 for the Veterans Council Aid to Servicemen. The appropriation has been recommended by the voters of the township at the recent township caucus. Work on the proposed new township budget is under way with final decision awiting the final action of the county tax allocation board.

Remember These New "Deadlines"

Due to war-time man-power problems of producing this newspaper, we are compelled to make the following changes in "deadlines for all copy," as follows:

CLASSIFIED ADS must be in by 5 o'clock each Tuesday of the week of insertion.

DISPLAY ADS must be in by six o'clock each Tuesday evening.

SOCIAL NEWS must be in our office by 5 o'clock each Tuesday afternoon. CLUB NEWS must be in by Monday noon, as usual.

STRAIGHT NEWS COPY must be in our office by 9 o'clock each Wednesday morning.

Monday afternoon's brief wind storm had a lot of people worried, and rightly so, for the wind was really a gale, getting up speed to around 70 miles an hour for a few minutes and driving the heavy downpour of rain in almost solid sheets of water before it. And hard as the storm seemed, Birmingham received only a light brushing by one side of the storm. According to people out in Plymouth and Ann Arbor the storm seemed to center in those cities. One Birmingham girl phoned home Monday at midnight and said the wind shook things up in good shape in Ann Arbor. There was some damage to trees in this locality.

—o—

If you are a tennis enthusiast or a tennis fan you will be interested in the news that a motion picture on tennis is to be shown Wednesday, April 25, at 7:30 in the Baldwin High School. These films are being sent by the United States Lawn Tennis Association to promote interest in tennis as well as to give instruction in its proper playing. Frank Singlyn, coach of Hill School, Pottstown, Pa., will give a talk accompanying the films. The public is cordially invited so just wander over next Wednesday night.

—o—

It has been reported by a local jokester that there are no women in Japan over the age of 28—they don't wanta B-29.

—o—

The Eccentric is indebted to Mrs. Walter Nichols, 715 Chester, for a copy of the first edition of the Eccentric, printed May 2, 1878. The paper, containing a lot of interesting bits of news of that day, had been in the possession of the late Miss Ellen Sherman, 84, of the old family homestead in Farmington township, since the date of publication. Upon the death of Miss Sherman last December the paper was given to a sister of Mrs. Nichols, a resident of Birmingham for the past 50 years. Miss Sherman was born, reared and lived her entire life at the old homestead in Farmington township. Mrs. Nichols has lived most of her life in or near Birmingham and recalls vividly events of fifty years ago. She tells of the gravel highway which is now Woodward avenue; the old board sidewalks and of life in general in the town of 900 souls. The coming of the bicycle, she says, is an event she will never forget. Many persons thought it a sin for owners to ride their bicycles on the streets on Sunday. "Wonder what those persons would think if they could return to Birmingham and see the Sunday traffic," she commented. "But the city in those days was a beautiful, quiet place in which to live. It was just lovely." Mrs. Nichols' husband has for 30 years been employed at Cranbrook where he handles much of the beautiful wrought iron work. He is 80 years of age but goes about his labors every work day.

—o—

Trudging along a 500 yard fairway at Sylvan Glen Golf Course the other day, this Wanderer found the answer to the oft asked question—"are animals smarter than humans?" Right in the middle of the fairway was a killdeer's nest with two tiny birds nestling cozily within, while pop and mom circled overhead without a thought that harm might befall their offspring. Pro Bob Sutherland had fenced in their foot-and-a-half square lot with markers so the man with the tractor and mower wouldn't run over them and there was nothing left to worry about. Who ever heard of a golfer hitting a ball down the middle of the fairway? Observation, no doubt, had taught them not to build their nest in the rough or in a tree or near any other obstacle on a golf course. That's where the balls rain down the hardest, but straight off the tee and 200 yards out is safe as safe can be.

—o—

"Take me out to the ball game!" If you have a baseball bat around the house that you do not need you can take it to the Frank McAllister Company, local Ford dealer, and exchange it for a ticket to see the Tigers play ball. Larrie Aurie has the ducats and will give you one for every usable bat you bring him. The bats are to be given to the high school and sand lot teams of this district. The Detroit Tigers and the Ford dealers of this area are cooperating in this plan to aid the teams in procuring baseball bats.

—o—

Birmingham fishermen have been telling the Wanderer they are worried about the fish supply on the lakes near this city. The past winter was long and cold, with thick ice, snow covered on all the lakes of the Birmingham area. Now comes the report of Louis Krumholz, of the Institute of fisheries research, Ann Arbor, who says some Oakland county lakes had a winter kill loss of 150 legal size game fish per acre of water area. Fish under four inches were not counted. Krumholz visited the nearby lakes and checked the fish killed by lack of oxygen. So if you don't find quite as many game fish in your lake this summer blame it on the cold, snowy winter.

—o—

Maybe you did not know that at times you almost miss getting your fresh vegetables for today's meals because of express handling difficulties. The Grand Trunk train does not arrive in Birmingham in time to allow distribution of perishables the same day. But the express company and city have been operating under a temporary agreement to bring the express by truck from Detroit, instead of having it unloaded from the train here. That saves time. Now the express company wants to make a permanent arrangement and has asked the city to back the undertaking by sending a representative to a hearing before an Interstate Commerce Commission representative in Detroit. Fred Kemp, local express agent, and City Manager H. H. Corson explained the problem to the City Commission last night. The Commission ordered a representative sent to the meeting.

—o—

Not all the persons saving money for War Bonds or to give to the Red Cross are adults, for today the Wanderer, by chance, heard of a lad down on 13 Mile road who has been raising and selling rabbits in order to have funds for this very purpose. So seemed a bit modest and did not want us to mention his name, but he did admit he is doing "all the work" in connection with the rabbit venture and that he has already sold 36 rabbits and invested the money in the good causes mentioned. Early and late, each day of the week, the lad has been noticed by neighbors cleaning the hutches and feeding the rabbits.

—o—

Just in case you do not know, Birmingham is going to have a "Civic Pride and Cleanup Week." The dates have been announced as May 7 to 12, inclusive, and Mayor Wilmer E. Moody is asking the Air Raid Wardens to take the lead in a block to block campaign for cleanup and beautification. The mayor says he plans quite an organization for the undertaking and may have some additional committees lined up shortly. So all Birmingham residents who have a bit of civic pride are asked to get busy at once on their part of the campaign to make the city a cleaner and more inviting place in which to reside.

—o—

Local horsemen are reported grooming their mounts for a special round-up and horse show to be held May 20 at Magnolia polo field, at James Couzens highway and 8 Mile road, by the Michigan Horseman's association. The show committee announced the day's events are planned to demonstrate all types of horseback riding. It is to be an amateur show with plenty of action from the opening horn at 1 p. m. until closing time.

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"Sixty dollars," said Judge H. A. O'Dell, up at Bloomfield Hills the other day when Redge V. Neal, of Detroit, pleaded guilty to a charge of reckless driving. He was arrested by traffic police on April 8 and his case was called up on April 12. He paid the fine.

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On the second floor are two more bedrooms with complete bath and in the basement an oil burning American Radiator circulating hot water heating plant. There are no obtrusive radiators to inhibit your drapery scheme.

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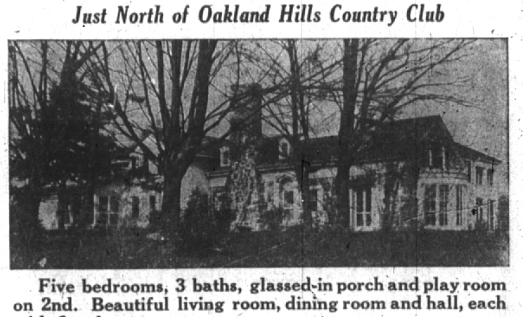

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